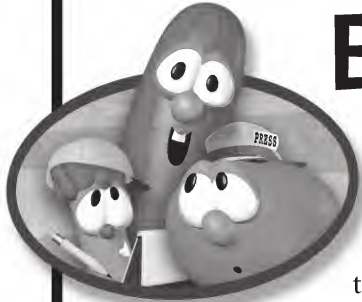


VeggieTales® VeggieConnections™

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Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

The **THINK—LINK—ACT** undercover reporters are back in action at the Veggie Lagoon with Bob and Larry. They are trying to get unsuspecting kids and their families to plug in to God

by having faith and remembering that God made them for a purpose.

THINK was caught in the act this week with Bob the Tomato sharing Hebrews 11:1, which says, *“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.”*

?? How can you be sure of what you can't see?

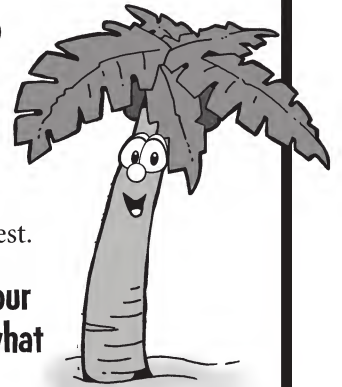
LINK and Larry the Cucumber told everyone that Moses' mother demonstrated great faith when she

put her little baby in a basket and floated him down a river. She also had faith that Moses was born for a special purpose.

?? What was that purpose? Do you know? Turn to the book of Exodus and try to find out.

ACT was caught in the act, with both Bob and Larry, challenging families to put their faith to the test.

?? What's God's purpose for your family? How can you find out what God wants you to do for him?



Bob and Larry's Fabulous Family Fun

Community Watch What can your family do to show your neighborhood or community that you are living out God's purpose for you? If you are musical, you could pledge to visit a nursing home and sing to residents. If you like the outdoors, you might decide to clean up the park or beach near your home. You might have neighbors over for a cookout. Or simply schedule your activities to put God's priorities first.

Discover your family's identity and strengths, and list activities you can do to honor God and show others your faith in him. Have each family member sign a contract, date it, and then hang it on the refrigerator or in a prominent place.

Check off each activity as you do it; then plan to meet again and talk about what you learned about God's purpose for you.



Who's Who in Your Family? Have each family member write his or her name on a piece of paper. Fold the slips in half and drop them into a small basket or bowl. Have each person pick a name from the bowl and act out the special talents and qualities of the person they chose.

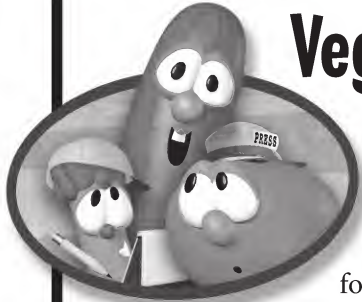
Have the rest of the family guess who is being portrayed. When everyone is done, say a prayer together. Thank God for the special purpose he has made each one of you for.

Undercover Reporters Spotted Again!

THINK — LINK — ACT have been discovered on the move again with Bob and Larry. A call just came in claiming that they were seen helping people overcome challenges. Stay tuned to your next issue of *VeggieConnections* to find out what happened.

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Veggie Reporters on Assignment in Egypt

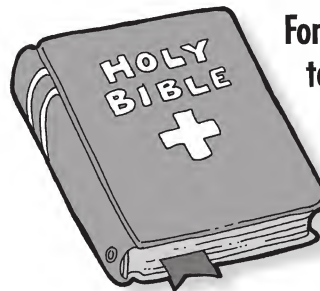
The **THINK—LINK—ACT** reporters were back in action today, this time on location in sunny Egypt. They found baby Moses all grown up and watching the Hebrew people work under the blazing hot sun.

They also witnessed a crime in action, as Moses got angry with an Egyptian for beating up a Hebrew slave. Moses failed to apply the **THINK—LINK—ACT** principle and ended up killing the Egyptian. Then he had to make a run for it!

That impulsive action cost Moses many years away from his people. He lived with nomadic people in the desert. Enough years passed that he had time to marry a shepherd woman and begin a family. The

whole time he was gone, the Israelites were still back in Egypt building pyramids. They all were facing challenges.

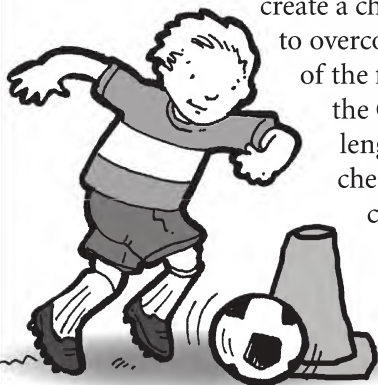
But their story doesn't end there. God was still watching over them, and the Bible says he heard the cries of the Israelites and remembered the promise he had made to their forefathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to keep them as his people.



For more on this story, turn to the Old Testament book of Exodus (the second book in the Bible), chapter two.

Bob and Larry's Fabulous Family Fun

Crazy Creative Challenge Course Help your family face their challenges! Mom or Dad, head outside and see what kind of crazy obstacle course you can create to get your family in gear. You might create a hopscotch, use a jump rope, skip around the car, shoot a basket, sing a song loudly, whatever would create a challenge for your team to overcome. Let each member of the family take a turn on the Crazy Creative Challenge Course. Be sure to cheer one another on, and celebrate your fun with a special treat. Thank God for being with you as you face all the challenges in your life.



Family Talk Time

The Family Couch will be open this evening for a special time of live entertainment featuring “high-lows.” Each member of the family will tell the “high” light of the day, followed by the “low” point, whatever difficulty they were faced with, and how God can help them. In closing, pray for all the challenges in our lives and encourage each other with the reminder that God is always with us and will help us overcome. Be there, and be a couch potato!

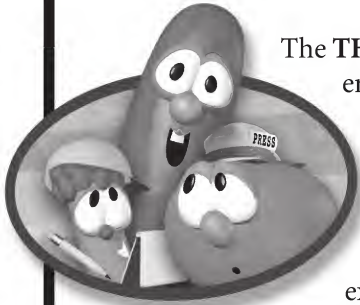
Breaking News!

The **THINK — LINK — ACT** reporters have received a tip from an unnamed source that God is going to appear to Moses in a very unusual way. Look for a full report in the next issue of *VeggieConnections*!

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A Burnin' Desire to Move



The **THINK—LINK—ACT** reporters have been wandering in the desert trying to see what Moses has been doing. **THINK** spotted Moses talking to God in a burning bush. Moses kept thinking up excuses of why he didn't want to do what God was asking him to.

LINK saw that God gave Moses special signs to do, and allowed Moses' brother, Aaron, to go along with him. Once God showed Moses these things, he was ready to do something, and **ACT** points out that as soon as Moses saw that God was in control of everything, he packed up and headed back to Egypt.

Desert Firefighters Confused

Our top desert firefighters are frightened and confused about a recent fire. One firefighter says, "We've never seen anything like it! This bush was on fire, but it just burned and burned. It never burned up. This old guy named Moses was hanging around, and he said it was God!" Our lead firefighting investigators are still looking into this claim.

Reporters Infiltrate Pharaoh's Court

The **THINK — LINK — ACT** undercover reporters have somehow managed to get past all of Pharaoh's elite guards and are hiding out inside his palace. They have information about some bizarre happenings when Moses and Aaron confront Pharaoh. Check out the next *VeggieConnections* for all the latest news!

Bob and Larry's Fabulous Family Fun

Water into Blood This experiment can give you an idea of what it may have looked like when Moses turned the water into blood.

Fill a small, clear jar half full with water. Add two or three drops of red food coloring and stir to see the water turn into "blood." The water can be turned back into "water" again by using an eyedropper to add one drop of bleach to the colored water; add drops of bleach until the red solution turns clear.

Family Photo Trust As a family, look through an old photo album and talk about the memories. Think about how God was in control of the events, and talk about how you trusted God in those times. Let everyone share how they saw God working at various times pictured.

Pray the Calendar Board Game Use a wall calendar as your game board, preferably one that you use

to keep track of family schedules. Use coins as game markers, and a number cube.

Place all your markers at the start of the month. Take turns rolling the number cube and moving that number of spaces (each day is a space). Look at the space you land on and see if there's an activity or appointment noted there. If so, stop and pray about trusting God's control over it. Keep taking turns spinning and moving and praying until you've prayed through the whole month!

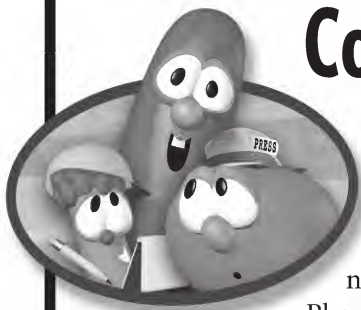
If you don't use a family calendar, try this game with your refrigerator magnets. Line up the magnets, notes, pictures, or whatever is on your fridge into a grid. Use small magnets as markers. Roll, move, and pray for whatever you land on.



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Moses Finds Amazing Courage



THINK sent in an unbelievable report this week about Moses. He says, "I'm not sure Moses is thinking right now. He keeps going back to

Pharaoh, even though it just makes

him more angry." LINK reminds us that Moses has faith in God, and is just doing what God asks him to do, even though it's tough. ACT mentioned that the plagues, even though they were hard on everyone, made Pharaoh finally do what God wanted all along. Pharaoh finally let the Israelites go! THINK then realized that it isn't always easy to obey God, and sometimes it doesn't even seem to make sense. But God will work it all out.

Bob and Larry's Fabulous Family Fun

Pyramid Building 101 The Israelites spent many years in slavery building Egyptian pyramids. Here's a much easier, and fun, way you can build one, too. In a large area, build a human pyramid. Larger, stronger adults should be at the bottom, on their hands and knees. Smaller children should climb on top to build the pyramid higher. If it is nice outside, do this on the lawn and recruit some neighbors to help.

Pet Store Plague Go to a pet store that has some reptiles. Talk about what it might have been like to experience some of the plagues, like having frogs everywhere, or having locusts eat all your crops, or even just how annoying it would have been to have gnats flying all around you. Stop at a favorite place to have a special treat, and talk about how much easier things are when you have faith in God, and do what is right.

Classified

WANTED

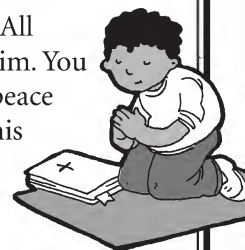
Families willing to sit down together for dinner several times a week to discuss what is happening in their lives, to thank God for all that he is doing for them, and to pledge together to live for him. Must remember that God has a special purpose for them and be willing to overcome challenges and do the right things. Must have faith to believe in a God they can't see. Call on God for more information.

FOUND

One walking stick, near the corner of King Tut's tomb and the fields by the Nile River. Does strange things when you throw it down. Turned water into blood. Once changed into a poisonous snake until grabbed by the tail. To identify, call the *Egypt Enquirer*.

Free Offer for You! Don't Wait! Act Now!

God wants to come near to you. All you have to do is come near to him. You will receive, absolutely free, the peace that passes all understanding. This offer is available to everyone, all the time. But, the sooner you act, the better your life will be!



Reporters Caught Up in the Hustle and Bustle

THINK — LINK — ACT are surrounded by thousands of Israelites in a big hurry! They report that after God brought horrible plagues on Egypt, God had special plans for how the Hebrew people would leave. The reporters are going with them and will have a full story in the next *VeggieConnections!*

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Camel Haulers See Sudden Surge in Sales



Reporters, **THINK—LINK—ACT**, report that the Israelites are ready to move . . . now! After 430 years of slavery in Egypt, **THINK** reports that the Israelites are finally getting to move away. **ACT** noted that they were cooking a special meal before leaving, and calling it the Passover. **LINK** saw that they didn't put yeast in the bread, so it was just flat bread. God had told them to do this, because they wouldn't have time to let the bread rise. **THINK** said, "I guess when God tells you to do something, you better be ready to do it right now!"

Cushy Camel Moving

When you need to move, we have what you need! **Cushy Camel Moving Company** has the most comfy air-cushioned camels in the East. Don't waste your money on those other camels. Demand the very best. Get moving, and get to **Cushy Camel**. Remember, moving is an adventure!

Bob and Larry's Fabulous Family Fun

Family Sports Night Head out into the yard or park and play a game that takes a lot of perseverance, like tag or keep-away. Enjoy your time together, keep at it, and work up a sweat!



Our Featured Culinary Columnist

Dear History Chef:

Before the Israelites left Egypt, God told them to get ready for a long trip through the desert. There was no McDonald's or Dunkin' Donuts out there. So, what did they eat?

Signed,
Curiously Hungry

: Dear Hungry:

For the Israelites to trust God by obeying him, they had to make some bread the quick way. Here are a couple of recipes they might have enjoyed. Bon appétit!

—*The Always-Hungry History Chef*

An Unleavened Bread Recipe

3 cups flour
2 tbsp. oil or butter
3 large eggs
1/2 cup water or milk
1 tsp. salt

Combine dry ingredients. Combine eggs and oil, then beat. Add

eggs to flour. Add milk, then beat for 2-3 minutes. Pour into three 8" square pans, greased, and bake for 20 minutes at 450 degrees. Enjoy with butter and honey.

In order to get ready to leave Egypt quickly, the Israelites would have had to work together. As a family, it's our job to work together, too.

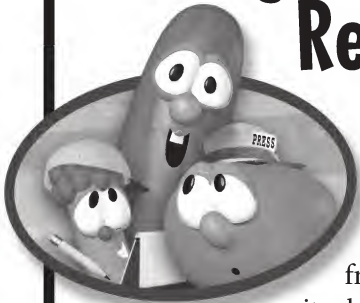
Reporters Split Up

Think and Link are traveling with Moses and the million plus Israelites as they are being led by God with some amazing sights, both day and night. But Act has returned to Egypt because Pharaoh is up to his old tricks again. Doesn't this guy ever learn?! **ACT** is following Pharaoh as he's headed toward the Israelites. Act reports that Pharaoh looks mighty fine in his fancy chariot, but he thinks it's still bad news for Pharaoh. Check out the next *VeggieConnections* for the update!

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Strange Tides Disrupt Red Sea



An amazing phenomenon took place yesterday at the edge of the Red Sea. The Israelite slaves, recently freed from Egypt, were camped on its shores. Without warning, the

soldiers of Egypt stormed down on the former slaves. Pharaoh wanted his free labor program back in working order. But the Israelites were saved by an unusual tidal condition—the water of the Red Sea was parted in two. The Israelites went right through the sea on dry ground. Unfortunately for the Egyptian soldiers, this tidal pattern did not hold, and they were drowned when the water rushed back over the opening. Our reporters on the scene, THINK—LINK—ACT, report that the Israelites are praising God on the far side of the sea.

Human Faith Recipe

1 Gallon Faith — “Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see,” Hebrews 11:1.

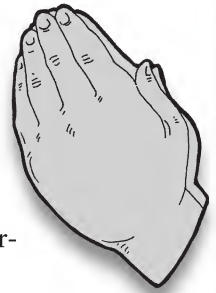
1 Cup Thinking — Stopping to think in every circumstance helps us learn to trust.

1 Cup Linking — Linking “what we can do” to “pleasing God” can help us avoid sin and build trust.

1 Cup Acting — We must act out our faith, trusting God even when we can’t see or understand what he is doing.

1 Dash of Constant Prayer — Prayer helps us connect with God in a powerful way!

Mix all of the above ingredients together and bake them for a lifetime in a heart burning with a passion for God. When finished, enjoy a great relationship with God.



Bob and Larry’s Fabulous Family Fun

Moving Box Faith Place a large cardboard box, like a moving box, in the center of the room. Give family members one minute to gather a few items that represent what he or she would want to take if you had to pack

quickly to move, as the Israelites did. Gather the family back together and place all the items in the box. One at a time, show your items and share why it would be an important thing to take with you if you were moving. When everyone has shared, discuss as a family what things in the box help you grow closer to God, and what things might get in the way of your relationship with God. Pray and ask God to help you remember how he parted the Red Sea for the Israelites

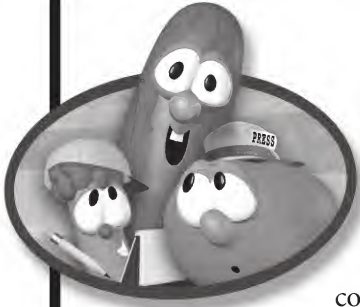
to walk through, and to trust that he will help you remove things from your life that block your relationship with him.

Reporters Witness Awesome Mountain Experience

THINK — LINK — ACT are at the base of a special mountain while Moses is told to climb it by God. The advance word is that God is going to give Moses some important news for the Israelites. The reporters are afraid to go up the mountain because of the smoke coming from it. They will have to wait until Moses comes down to give a report. As soon as he does, *VeggieConnections* will have the news!

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Mountain Goes Up in Smoke

Strange weather patterns were reported near Mount Sinai this week, as smoke surrounded the mountain and seemed to be coming from the top of it where there were also flames reported.

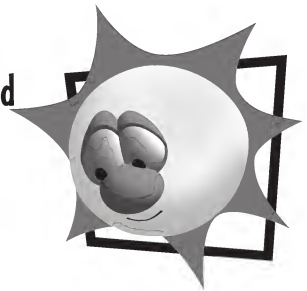
“It was the presence of God,” said one eyewitness, THINK, at the scene. LINK said, “God came down to the mountain and spoke directly to Moses. The ground around the mountain has been designated as holy ground.”

ACT added that Moses received a list of commandments directly from God for the people and that the Israelites agreed to obey these commandments.

Weather Today’s Forecast: The weather is expected to be hot, dry, and sunny today in the Sinai Desert, with a high of 114 degrees. Tonight our temperatures will chill to a low of 52 degrees overnight. Travelers are advised to use at least SPF 45 sunscreen applied every three to four hours due to intense ultraviolet rays and the possibility of skin damage from the sun.

Five-Day Forecast: The weather will be hot and dry . . . every day!

Hi 114° Lo 52°



Culinary Cuisine — Muddy Mount Sinai

You Will Need:

- One quart of chocolate ice cream, softened
- 9" x 12" pan of brownies, store-bought or homemade
- Large serving bowl and spoon
- Tube of red icing
- Two oval-shaped cookies

In a large serving bowl, crumble brownies into softened ice cream and stir. Shape this mixture into a mountain in the serving bowl, and refreeze. When hardened, remove from freezer and dribble red icing on the top to represent the fire of God. Stick two oval-shaped



cookies into the side of the mountain, side by side, so that they stand up like tablets, representing the Ten Commandments.

Before serving, see who can briefly retell the story of Moses’ trip up Mount Sinai. While eating, practice saying the Ten Commandments.

Reporters Hear God’s Word

The *VeggieConnections* reporters are honored to be able to hear Moses talk about God’s laws. Moses lived a long time following God, and he recalls how God has been faithful to him and his people. Check out the next *VeggieConnections* for the Word!

Bob and Larry's Fabulous Family Fun

Ten Commandments Macarena As a family, sing these commandments to the tune of the "Macarena."

These are the words of the Lord your God.
And if you obey them you will not get into trouble.

These are the words of the Lord your God.
Heyyy – Ten Commandments!

One, you should have no other gods before me.

Two, you should not make any idols.

Three, you should not misuse God's name.

Heyyy, Ten Commandments!

Four, you should keep God's special day holy.

Five, you should obey your mom and dad.

Six, you should not murder anybody.

Heyyy – Ten Commandments!

Seven, don't take your friend's wife or husband.

Eight, don't take anybody else's things.

Nine, you should not tell any lies.

Heyyy – Ten Commandments!

Ten, you should not want the stuff your friends have.

These are the words of the Lord your God.

And if you obey them you will not get in trouble.

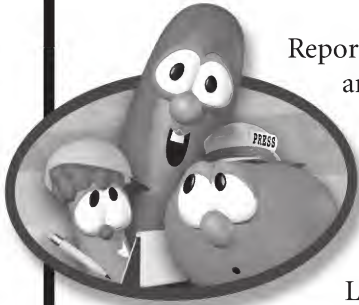
Heyyy – Ten Commandments!



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Final Desert Assignment



Reporters, **THINK—LINK—ACT** are happy to report that they may soon get to leave the hot, dry desert. **THINK** reports that the Israelites are soon going to enter the Promised Land. According to agent **LINK**, Moses shared with the

Israelites why it was so important to have faith in God, to love him, and obey him. And **ACT** . . . well, actually **ACT** was too busy making plans to go skiing in Switzerland to make a report.

Bob and Larry's Fabulous Family Fun

Family Activity Notice Families can hold a hearing to discuss the things God did for the Israelites and Moses, and whether those things were good enough for the Israelites to get really excited about. Choose an attorney to argue the evidence of the ways that God was good to the Israelites. Choose a judge and jury to give a verdict in the case. Have the jury share their verdict with the judge, as a way of sharing their faith in God.

Reporters Report on a Really Radical Case

THINK — LINK — ACT have enjoyed reporting on the amazing stories of Moses and the Israelites. They have already gone undercover to report on their next case. It's so secret even they don't know where they're going! But your next issue of *VeggieConnections* will have all the details!

Local Kids Discover Exciting Faith

Our very own *Veggie Connections* kids recently made an incredible discovery by Thinking, Linking, and Acting out their faith in God. The kids learned that talking to God every day, learning from the Bible, and developing a connection with God, makes a great formula for a very successful life.

This news was so exciting that the kids quickly decided to share it with others. Now these kids plan to tell their friends and family at home, school, and in the neighborhood, how much fun it is to get to know God and be his friend.

"Building a relationship with God has helped me in so many ways," shared one group member. "I can't wait to see my friends and family get to know him, too."

Several of the kids cite the Bible story of the Israelites and the miracles that God used to free them from slavery in Egypt. "How can you not get excited about God? He made you, loves you, and knows what's best for you, and he wants to be your best friend!" Bob the Tomato reminds us.

Public Announcement

Don't forget that there will be a neighborhood effort to remember James 4:8, "*Come near to God and he will come near to you*" and Hebrews 11:1, "*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.*" Please have these verses memorized and ready for inspection.



ADVERTISEMENT

The Good News of Jesus is a colorful event! Parents! Don't miss your chance! Ask your *VeggieConnections* kids to use their Colorful Faith Fingerboards to tell you story of Jesus' love. Don't delay; do it today!